

Jensen's Hyde Park

2008 Drinking Water Quality Report

PWSID:020 0201



Important Information about your Drinking Water:

Special points of interest:

- The water at Jensen's Hyde Park was tested for over 120 different compounds
- The Jensen's Hyde Park Drinking water met both State and Federal requirements
- Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. The presence of these compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for 2008. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Maryland Environmental Service, an Agency of the State of Maryland, operates the water treatment facility and prepared this report on behalf of Jensen's Hyde Park. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Last year more than 800 tests for over 120 compounds were conducted on the water at Jensen's Hyde Park. We want you to understand the efforts made to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

The water for Jensen's Hyde Park comes from two wells. One in the Aquia aquifer and one in the Federalburg aquifer. After the water is pumped out of the wells, we add disinfectant to protect against microbial contaminants. The Maryland Department of the Environment has performed an assessment of the source water.

*We want everyone to be informed
about their water.*

We're pleased to report that your drinking water met both Federal and State requirements. This report shows the water quality and explains what it means. If you have any questions about this report or have questions concerning your water utility, please contact **Mr. Jay Janney at 410-729-8350 or jjann@menv.com**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain compounds in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Public Meeting Information: For the opportunity to ask more questions or participate in decisions that may affect your drinking water quality, the Town Council meets the first and third Monday each month.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the regulated drinking water contaminants that we detected during the last several years. The presence of these compounds in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2008. The State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Jensen's Hyde Park Treated Water Quality Report 2008				
Definitions				
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.			
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.			
Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.			
ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter				
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter				
mrem/year = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)				
pCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)				
Contaminant	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Ideal Goal (EPA's MCLG)	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Regulated at the Treatment Plant - Cordova Road, Easton, MD - Plant LD. 01				
Arsenic	10 ppb	Range 4 - 5 ppb	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (2007 Testing)	4 ppm	Range 0.18 - 3.26 ppm	4 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (2006 Testing)	50 ppb	2 ppb	50 ppb	Discharge from petroleum & refineries
Gross Beta	4 mrem/year	0.48 mrem/year	0 mrem/year	Decays of natural deposits
Regulated at the Consumer's Tap				
Copper	1.3 ppm (action level)	90th percentile = 0.019 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures and systems

Important information about arsenic: Arsenic is a semi-metal element in the periodic table. It is odorless and tasteless. It enters drinking water supplies from natural deposits in the earth or from agricultural and industrial practices. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Currently, the arsenic levels are being monitored quarterly and they are below the MCL. MES and the Jensen Hyde WTP are constantly evaluating alternatives and treatment options for reducing the arsenic levels to less than 10 ppb.

Federal regulations require that fluoride, which occurs naturally in your water supply, not exceed a concentration of 4.0 mg/l in drinking water. This is an enforceable standard called a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), and it has been established to protect the public health. Exposure to drinking water levels above 4.0 mg/l for many years may result in some cases of crippling skeletal fluorosis, which is a serious bone disorder.

Federal law requires that we notify you when monitoring indicates that the fluoride in your drinking water exceeds 2.0 mg/l. This is intended to alert families about dental problems that might affect children under nine years of age. The fluoride concentration of your water exceeds this federal guideline. Fluoride in children's drinking water at levels of approximately 1 mg/l reduces the number of dental cavities. However, some children exposed to levels of fluoride greater than about 2.0 mg/l may develop dental fluorosis. Dental fluorosis, in its moderate and severe forms, is a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. Because dental fluorosis occurs only when developing teeth (before they erupt from the gums) are exposed to elevated fluoride levels, households without children are not expected to be affected by this level of fluoride. Families with children under the age of nine are encouraged to seek other sources of drinking water for their children to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting.